

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /070 W

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R 161203Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5067

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

.MMCONSUL KARACHI 5496

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWARKKUNN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 3877

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK

SUBJECT: BHUTTO'S COMMENTS ON RCD EXPANSION

1. AS BHUTTO PREPARES FOR UPCOMING RCD SUMMIT IN
TURKEY, MINOR FLAP OVER HIS PROPOSAL TO EXTEND
MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN QUICKLY DAMPENED
DOWN.

2. ALL PAPERS APRIL 14 CARRIED REPORTS OF BHUTTO
INTERVIEW WITH TEHRAN KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL CORRES-
PONDENT WHICH WAS CARRIED OVER PAK RADIO AND
TELEVISION. DURING INTERVIEW PM SAID RCD SHOULD BE
EXTENDED TO ENCOMPASS OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.
AT PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING DAY, INFORMATION
MINISTER HANIF KHAN WAS ASKED IF HE WOULD ELOBORATE
ON BHUTTO'S REMARKS CONCERNING ENLARGING RCD. THE
MINISTER REPLIED PM HAD MEANT THAT IN CASE RCD HAD
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TO BE EXPANDED, NEW MEMBERS SHOULD BE ONLY FROM OTHER

MUSLIM STATES.

3. REPORTED COMMENTS OF SHAH SEVERAL MONTHS AGO
CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING RCD TO OTHER
REGIONAL COUNTRIES INCLUDING INDIA AROUSED CONSIDERABLE
MISGIVINGS HERE, ESPECIALLY IN CONSERVATIVE, ANTI-
INDIAN PRESS WHICH, FOR FIRST TIME IN OUR MEMORY,
CRITICIZED SHAH BY NAME FOR HIS PROPOSAL. GOP HAS
ACTED QUICKLY TO ASSURE PAK PUBLIC (AND PAKISTAN'S
RCD PARTNERS) THAT PM WAS NOT SUPPORTING THIS
SUGGESTION AND HIS REMARKS ABOUT RCD EXPANSION APPLIED
ONLY TO OTHER MUSLIM STATES.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ISLAMA03877
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760146-0371
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760454/aaaabtsi.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BHUTTO'S COMMENTS ON RCD EXPANSION
TAGS: PFOR, PK, (BHUTTO, ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006